



# Neighborhood Watch

City of Berwyn  
Mayor Robert J. Lovero

Berwyn Police Department  
Chief James D. Ritz

## NEWSLETTER

*"In Partnership with the Community"*

**December 2012**



### MESSAGE FROM THE OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

During this holiday season, we need to remember that it is a time to give thanks for what we have and be mindful of people who are less fortunate. As a community, Berwyn has stepped forward to assist those who are in need. On Thanksgiving Day, numerous Berwyn residents and City officials joined me and my family in hosting Thanksgiving Day meals for Berwyn residents in need. This event was a huge success and just a small part of my commitment of giving back to the community.

Additionally, I would like to remind you that you can help too. If you know of a family in need of assistance this holiday season, or would like to volunteer for a Berwyn Holiday Program event, make a monetary donation, or need additional information, please contact Ruth Volbre at 708-749-6433 or via email at: [rvolbre@ci.berwyn.il.us](mailto:rvolbre@ci.berwyn.il.us). Additional information including the Berwyn Holiday Program sponsorship form can be accessed on the City of Berwyn website at: <http://berwyn-il.gov/Portals/0/PDFs/forms/2012HolidaydonationVolunteerform.pdf>

As we progress through the holiday season, I would like to remind you of the following holiday events that are occurring in Berwyn which are open to all Berwyn residents:

- ❄ Wednesday, December 5th, **Senior Breakfast** at Skylite West Banquets, 7117 W. Ogden at 9:00 a.m.
- ❄ Saturday, December 8th, **"Deck the Depot"**- Celebrate Christmas in the Depot district with Santa, carolers, & tractor hayrides. Begins at 5:00pm.
- ❄ Friday, December 14th, I will be hosting a **Christmas party** at the VFW Hall located at 15th Street and Harlem Ave from 5:30 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.
- ❄ **Baskets for the Needy** – Saturday, December 15, 2012 / Starts at 9:00am (Berwyn Park District Liberty Cultural Center)
- ❄ **Sailors in Berwyn** – Tuesday, December 25, 2012 / Starts at 8:00am (Skylight West Banquet Hall)

Be sure to check out the City of Berwyn website for all city related information and days in which Berwyn City Hall will be closed for the holidays.

You can also view all holiday events by accessing the Berwyn community calendar at: [www.berwyn-il.gov](http://www.berwyn-il.gov)

I look forward to seeing you at these events. On behalf of the City of Berwyn, we wish each of you and your families a very joyous holiday season, and a very safe, happy and prosperous 2013.

Sincerely,

Robert J. Lovero



**BE A GOOD NEIGHBOR!!!!**

**Check on your elderly neighbors during the cold winter months.**

*(See warming center locations on page 4)*

### HELPFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

**POLICE - 911**  
**708 795-5600**

**FIRE - 911**  
**708 484-1644**

**AMBULANCE - 911**

**Berwyn City Hall**  
**708 788-2660**

**Berwyn Public Works**  
**708 749-4700**



## **NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH COMPLAINTS**

**Please forward any/all  
Neighborhood Watch Complaints to**

**Unit Commander James Sassetti  
708-795-2150 or  
Jsassetti@ci.berwyn.il.us**



**TAKE A BITE OUT OF  
CRIME**

## **NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH BLOCK CAPTAINS WANTED!**

To become a Neighborhood Watch  
Block Captain, visit:

***Berwynpolicedepartment.com***  
**For more information**

## **Upcoming Community Events**

### *Attention All Berwyn Seniors*

**Mayor Robert Lovero,  
Berwyn Township,  
Berwyn Health District  
and Senior Services**

*invites you to  
come and join us  
for some*



**Wednesday, December 5  
Skylite West Banquet Hall  
7117 West Ogden-Berwyn  
Doors Open 8:30 a.m. Breakfast Buffet 9:00 a.m.**

**ENTERTAINMENT, FOOD, PRIZES & FUN  
Tickets ~ \$5.00**

**TICKETS ON SALE NOV. 1ST  
For more information call: 484-2510 or 484-0033**

### **SAVE THE DATE**

***A Spectacular Holiday Event in the Depot  
District***



The Community is invited to enjoy horse-drawn sleigh rides, tractor pulled hay rides as well as a trolley traveling throughout the area. Businesses open their doors and offer complimentary refreshments and in-house entertainment, as well as special sales and drawings.

***Date: Saturday, December 8, 2012  
5:00 PM – 9:00 PM***

For more information visit [www.berwyn.net](http://www.berwyn.net) or call the Berwyn Development Corporation at 708-788-8100.



### *2012 CHRISTMAS PARTY*



*Sponsored by  
Mayor  
Robert J. Lovero*

***YOU'RE INVITED to JOIN US For HOLIDAY CHEER!  
FOOD, MUSIC and FUN***

***Friday, December 14, 2012 • 5:30 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.  
BERWYN V.F.W. • 15<sup>TH</sup> and Harlem***

***ALL CITY OF BERWYN RESIDENTS AND  
BERWYN EMPLOYEES ARE WELCOME!***

We are asking everyone attending to please bring a new, unwrapped toy to the party. Donations will be given to Berwyn area families in need.



*We Would Like To Wish You  
And Your Family  
A Very Happy Holiday Season*



**B**e sure to check out the City of Berwyn Website for all city related information and days in which Berwyn City Hall will be closed for the holidays. You can also view all holiday events by accessing the Berwyn community calendar at: [www.berwyn-il.gov](http://www.berwyn-il.gov).



## TIPS TO AVOID BEING SCAMMED THIS HOLIDAY SEASON

As the holidays approach, the Berwyn Police Department reminds the public to use caution when making online purchases. Cyber criminals continue to create ways to steal your money and personal information. If a deal looks too good to be true, it likely is.

Be wary of e-mails or text messages that indicate a problem or question regarding your financial accounts. Criminals will attempt to direct victims to click a link or call a number to update an account or correct a purported problem. The links may appear to lead you to legitimate websites, but they are not. Any personal information you share on them could be compromised.

The major legitimate delivery service providers do not e-mail customers directly regarding scheduled deliveries; you have to already have an existing account for this type of communication. Nor will they state when a package has been intercepted or is being temporarily held. E-mails about these issues are phishing scams that can lead to personal information breaches and financial losses.

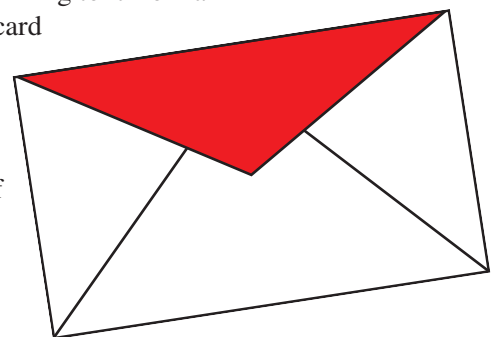
Internet criminals post classified advertisements on auction websites for products they do not have. If you buy merchandise promoted via an online ad or auction site but receive it directly from the retailer, it could be stolen property. You can protect yourself by not providing the seller with your financial information. Use legitimate payment services for transactions.

Fraudsters will also offer reduced or free shipping to auction site customers. They provide fake shipping labels, and they don't pay for the packages' delivery. Parcels shipped with these phony labels are intercepted and identified as fraudulent.

It's safest to purchase gift cards directly from merchants rather than through auction sites or classified ads. If the merchant discovers the card you received from another source was initially fraudulently obtained, the card will be deactivated.

Here are some tips you can use to avoid becoming a victim of cyber fraud:

- Do not respond to unsolicited (spam) e-mail.
- Do not click on links contained within an unsolicited e-mail.
- Be cautious of e-mail claiming to contain pictures in attached files; the files may contain viruses. Only open attachments from known senders. Scan the attachments for viruses if possible.
- Avoid filling out forms contained in e-mail messages that ask for personal information.
- Always compare the link in the e-mail with the link to which you are directed to determine if they match and will lead you to a legitimate site.
- Log directly onto a store's website identified in the e-mail instead of linking to it from an unsolicited e-mail. If the e-mail appears to be from your bank, credit card issuer, or other company you deal with frequently, your statements or official correspondence will provide the proper contact information.
- Contact the actual business that supposedly sent the e-mail to verify if the e-mail is genuine.
- If you are asked to act quickly, it may be a scam. Fraudsters often create a false sense of urgency.
- Verify any requests for personal information by calling the business or financial institution using the phone numbers listed on a billing statement or credit card.



If you have received a suspicious e-mail, file a complaint with the Internet Crime Complaint Center: [www.ic3.gov](http://www.ic3.gov).

(Source: Federal Bureau of Investigation)

## City of Berwyn Warming Centers - 2012-2013

**Berwyn Police Department** 24 Hours  
6401 W. 31st Street  
Berwyn, Illinois

**Berwyn Fire Department** 24 Hours  
6615 W 16th Street  
Berwyn, Illinois

**Berwyn Library**  
2701 S. Harlem Avenue  
Berwyn, Illinois

**Berwyn Recreation Department**  
6501 W. 31st Street  
Berwyn, Illinois

**Freedom Park Admin. Office**  
3701 S Scoville Ave  
Berwyn, Illinois

Monday -Thursday  
9a.m. - 9p.m.  
Friday and Saturday  
9a.m. - 5p.m.  
Sunday 1p.m. - 5 p.m.

Monday – Friday  
8 a.m. - 10 p.m.  
Saturday & Sunday Closed

Monday – Friday  
9 p.m. – 5 p.m.



## CITIZEN POLICE ACADEMY GRADUATION

Recently, the Berwyn Police Department hosted a graduation ceremony for its fall 2012 session of the Citizens Police Academy. Twenty-four Berwyn residents participated in the 12 week program designed to provide the community members with an inside look at local law enforcement. The purpose of the academy was to increase understanding between the participants, through education and interaction, with members of the Berwyn Police Department. The academy gave participants the opportunity to learn what the police do and why they do it. The graduation ceremony was enjoyed by many friends and family members of the graduates.

### *We would like to congratulate the following Citizens Police Academy graduates:*

Carol Hultgren Raia  
Tanya M. Hartema  
Dan Sesztak  
Catherine N. Hunter  
Kathleen Borucki-Mastej  
Shannon Snider  
Esperanza Juarez  
Kathy Ghbari

Ricketa Spencer-Williams  
Tammy Wibiral  
Eugene T. Terrell, Jr  
Eric Jimenez  
Stacy R. Irwin  
Raul O. Buendia  
Sergio Moreno Jr  
Ignatius Lopez

Barbara Novak  
Anna Gora  
Daryl Bergeron  
Ronald L. Milford  
Sylvia Miranda  
Josephine DeFranco  
Leonardo Jimenez  
Ronald Moreno

The Berwyn Police Department will be hosting another Citizens Police Academy in the spring of 2013. Please watch for a class announcement in future Neighborhood Watch Newsletters.



**The monthly Neighborhood Watch Newsletter  
can be viewed on the City of Berwyn web site at:**

**[www.berwyn-il.gov](http://www.berwyn-il.gov) or [www.berwynpolicedepartment.com](http://www.berwynpolicedepartment.com)**

